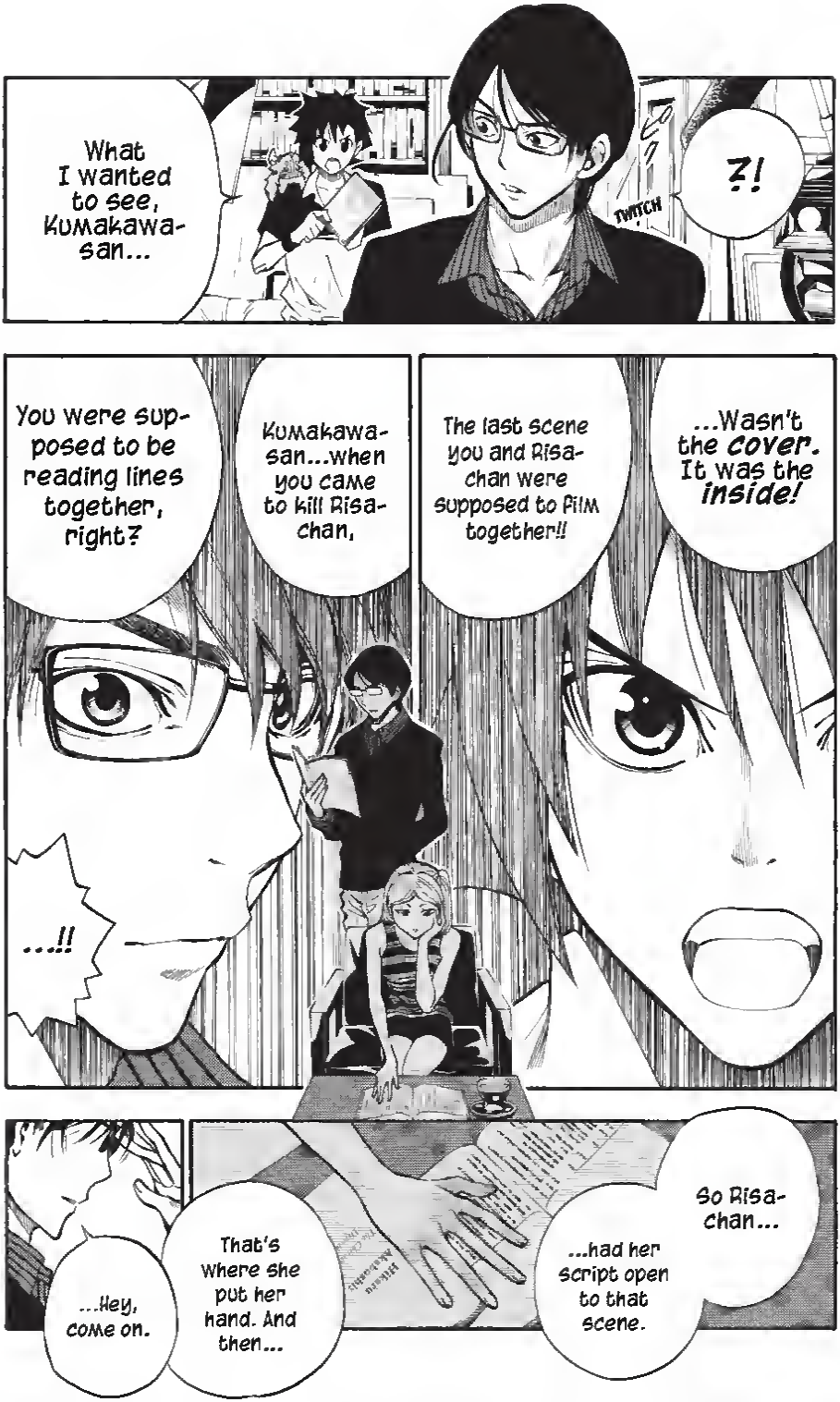
I just spilled cocoa all over my script.
As you can see,
Hikaru Akabo·hi:
The Chivalrous Detective
...it would be gone now.
Even if there were a print on it...
RUSTLE
!!

## Case 2 ⚜ A Script for Death, Part 6

...
NONE OF YOUR AMATEURISH REASONING...
...WILL GET PAST DETECTIVE AKABOSHI.
AND JUST IN CASE SOMEBODY CAME SNIFFING AROUND, I SPILLED COCOA ON IT MYSELF.
COCOA

SS
I have scene changes to rehearse
CLATTER
So...would you kindly leave me alone?

GRIN
Arf!!
Found it!
Hikaru
Akaboshi:
Chivalrous


What I wanted to see, Kumakawa-san...
TWITCH
?!
You were supposed to be reading lines together, right?
Kumakawa-san...when you came to kill Risa-chan,
The last scene you and Risa-chan were supposed to film together!!
...Wasn't the cover. It was the inside!
...!!
...Hey, come on.
That's where she put her hand. And then...
...had her script open to that scene.
So Risa-chan...

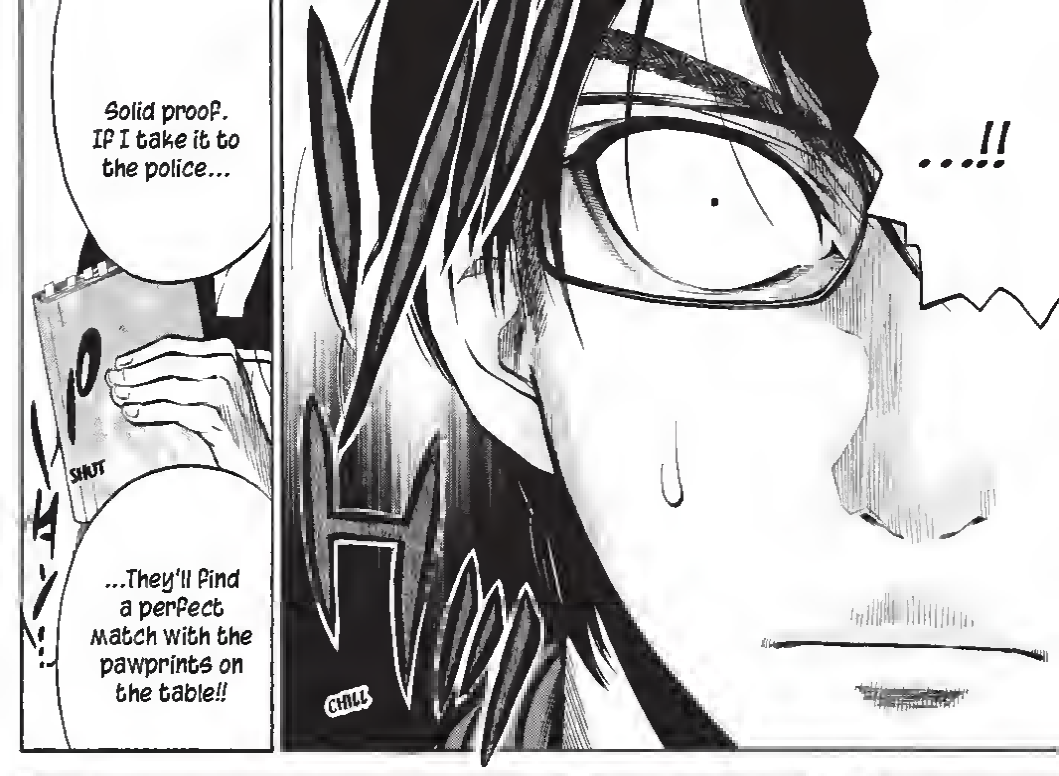
How many times do I have to tell you? I didn't kill her.
That's enough...
IRK...
SHE WAS READING IT ALONE!!
IF SHE WAS READING HER SCRIPT,
VINCE
Now...
You've hit a nerve.
...Hold your ground, Watson.
B-DMP
B-DMP
B-DMP
B-DMP
It's time to hit him with the truth!!
B-DMP
B-DMP
GRIT

Him!
BAM
Kumakawa-san! The fact is, before you started running lines...
...There was a little accident!!
SKFF
SKFF
...An accident?
Y...yes!
What about it?
...The dog?
Risa-chan was drinking some hot cocoa.
And he knocked it over!
...He ran all over the table.
But...
SS
TWITCH
Then, with his paws covered in the stuff...

So you opened up to the last scene.
You came up behind her and attacked.
Hikaru Akaboshi: The Chirpous Detective
You wanted Risa-chan to think you were getting ready to read the script.
...you didn't notice.
As you did, you took your open script...
FWOOSH
Hikaru Akaboshi: The Chirpous Detective
...On the coffee table.
And put it down...

IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE...
NO...
Then,
B-DMP
B-DMP...
Hikaru Akabosh: The Chinatown Detective
...Risa-chan put her hand down over both your scripts.
As she struggled for breath...
When she did...
THMP...
...Sherdog's footprints...
...were still wet.

Hotel Room (night)
Akaboshi invites Ayaka to sit on the couch. She is discouraged
Ayaka "Don't tell me you think I'm the killer.
You've really gone too far, Akaboshi-san. This is outrageous."
Unruffled Akaboshi sips his cocoa
Akaboshi "... How long are you going to keep defending a criminal?"
Ayaka "Huh?"
Akaboshi "Ayaka-san, I know everything. I know who really did it,
and I know that you're willing to disgrace yourself to protect her."
Ayaka "... "
Akaboshi "Why? You know she can't return your love."
Ayaka "You don't know anything!"
Ayaka takes her cocoa and attempts to throw it at him.
They were left all over your script.
Akaboshi "So I was right."
Ayaka "
Akaboshi "There on your left
you
And as you can see,


Solid proof. If I take it to the police...
SHUT
...They'll find a perfect match with the pawprints on the table!!
...!!
CHILL

You can't talk your way out of this!
No more excuses!

Watson!! Watch out!!
!
So go turn yourself in...
LUNGE
A!!
WHAM
?!
IN A FIT OF RAGE, HE STRANGLED THE INNOCENT PRODUCTION ASSISTANT...
GH
HE SAW YOU WALKING AROUND WITH RISA'S SCRIPT.
HE TRIED TO TAKE IT. THERE WAS A STRUGGLE...
S... STOP...
NGH...
I'M CHANGING THE SCRIPT.
THE STALKER RETURNED TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME, WHERE HE RAN INTO YOU.

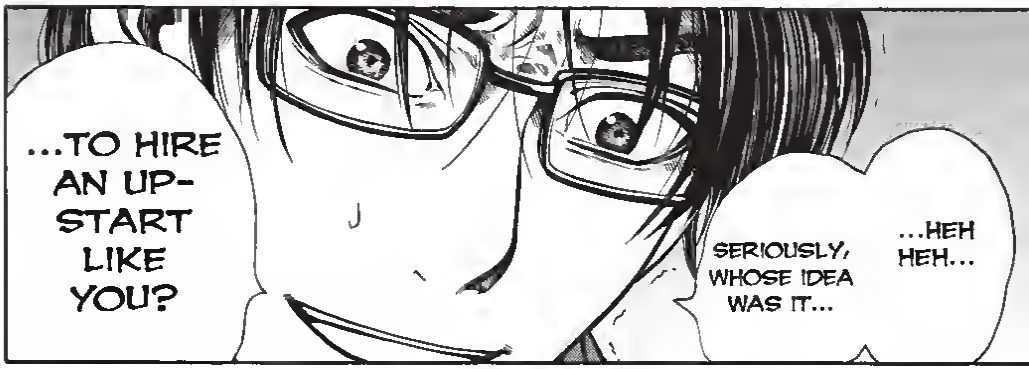
COUGH
ゴホ!!
...Whew.
I told you.
See, Airin-nēchan?
No... You...
N...
To catch me in the act?
That was your plan all along?
...
ニっ...
GRIN...
Yūji Kumakawa!!
Get away from him.
...!!

CLINK
You're under arrest!!
Grr...!
...and as a suspect in the Murder of Risa Kawai.
Yūji Kumakawa. I'm taking you in for attempted Murder...
...
Let's go!!
WHEW
...have you sus-pected me?
How long...
Will you... tell me one thing...?
...
Takeru... kun, was it?

...I knew it was you all along.
All...all along...?
But why...?
Because he saw it.
He saw you kill her!
SHRINK
... The dog... Heh heh...
If only I had noticed those paw-prints...

But now it's canceled, right?
You were supposed to film that scene tomorrow.
Because you killed Risa-chan.
Oh! About that, Kumakawa-san!
...the scene you theoretically were reading over last night.
So you never needed to look at...
You wouldn't have wanted to look at a scene that you were supposed to act out with a woman you'd killed.
That's why you never opened the script to that page after the murder, and that's how we got you.
In other words...

...some-
where
inside you.
Maybe we
were able to
catch you...
...because
there's
still some
humanity..


...TO HIRE
AN UP-
START
LIKE
YOU?
SERIOUSLY,
WHOSE IDEA
WAS IT...
...HEH
HEH...

Ow!!
I under-
estimated
you!
Takeru!
SLAM

...
Take
him
in.
Yes, In-
spector!!

You really surprised me when you told me about finding a motive in her camera.
And about the cocoa on the script.
Here I thought that, for somebody from a police family...
...You were pretty unreliable and empty-headed. I guess I was wrong.
GLANCE
Uh, no...I didn't..
Just accept the compliments, Watson.
She wouldn't believe you if you told her I helped.
GRIN
Besides, this development should help us in the future. You've truly done well, Watson!!
Heh heh. Yeah, well!
You're not the only one with a famous police detective for a grandfather!!
ARF!

Ami Takahara didn't kill herself?
What?!
But my sister says Kumakawa killed her.
...That's right, Miki. It's not in the news yet.
Then he panicked and sent out a ton of text messages to make it look like a suicide.
She wanted to break up, but it didn't go so well. He snapped and pushed her down the emergency staircase.
So she kept going after Kumakawa to get him to tell her what really happened.
Risa-chan thought something wasn't right about it.

So if this hadn't happened, no one ever would have ever suspected anything different.
But there really are a lot of suicides and stuff in show business...
Wow... that's awful.
...
I mean, if it was really suicide, he wouldn't have needed to kill Risa-chan to hide it.
Looks like it.
Is... is that true?
Huh?
RUSTLE...
Don't go into show business.
Don't do it, Miki.
...
Takeru...
PERK
Oho?
...
I...I won't.

You're worried about me.
You just don't have what it takes to be a pro!
BLUSH
!!
You're nowhere near...
I mean, that gravitas I saw in those giant racks at the shoot.
Sh-shut up! ...EW! I stepped in crap!!
Don't tell me that was you, Sherdog!
ARF!
I would never!
You never learn, do you, Watson?
Erk! I didn't mean it like that!
SKFF
Well, excuse me for being amateur-sized!
Never Mind. I don't want to talk about it.
Cats are related to lions, which have a habit of carefully observing the savannah as they do their business...
ARF
I deduce that this was done by a cat!
You would never see a normal dog, let alone an English gentleman, doing that in the middle of the sidewalk!